controls may be exported in accordance with United States export laws, and/or imported into other countries that place additional restrictions on the use of cryptography. --

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- BACKGROUND --

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, lines 13-30, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- There are many circumstances where the distribution or the use of encryption software is regulated by the government. In some countries, the strength of encryption that can be exported is regulated without any restrictions on States, companies are free to distribute any type of encryption software developed within the country for use by Unites States citizens. Furthermore, the United States allows unrestricted importation of encryption technology. However, exporting a certain strength encryption from the United States is regulated. In other countries, such as France, the strength of encryption that can be used, distributed, or imported is tightly regulated.

In the case where exportation of encryption software is restricted, permissible exportable encryption software are usually limited to specific algorithms that use key sizes which are weaker than a particular size. Previously, encryption software has generally been an integral part of a software application. Therefore, to accommodate the varying degrees of permitted encryption levels, several versions of the same application are typically created; one version that provides strong encryption by those who are allowed unrestricted use, and one or more versions that use weaker encryption for those customers whose use is restricted. --

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--SUMMARY--

Applicant : Taher ELGAM● et al.   Attor●s Docket No.: 06975-193002
Serial No. : To Be Assigned
Filed   : August 3, 2001
Page   : 3

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, lines 2-3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Figure 1 illustrates a block diagram of a system including a policy filter in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.--

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, lines 4-5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Figure 2 illustrates a flow chart of the initialization of the policy filter in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.--

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, lines 6-7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Figure 3 illustrates a flow chart of the control of capability query through the policy filter in accordance with yet another embodiment of the present invention.--

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, lines 8-9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Figure 4 illustrates the control of cryptographic operation through the policy filter in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.--

Applicant : Taher ELGAM● ●t al.
Serial No. : To Be Assigned
Filed : August 3, 2001
Page : 4

Attor●●s Docket No.: 06975-193002

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, lines 10-11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Figure 5 illustrates a flow chart of a cryptographic policy module using a cryptographic policy file in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.--

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, lines 12-13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Figure 6 illustrates a block diagram of a system including a policy file and module in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.--

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION--

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, lines 16-17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Figure 1 illustrates a block diagram of a system including policy filters in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.--

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, lines 26-29, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Although the invention has been described in connection with specific embodiments, it should be understood that the invention as claimed should not be unduly limited to such specific embodiments.--